

Committee Attendance: Rob Andreoli, Yen Ju Chen, Cathy Drzyzgula, Jon Eisenberg, Paul Goldberg, Jose Zegarra Holder, Kirk Holmes, Suzanne Weiss, Richard Wells. *Absent:* Kelly Cameron *Cable Office Staff:* Mitsuko Herrera *Guests:* Adeyinka Oyesile Ogunlegan, Alphonse MacDonald, Aniket Patel

Call to Order

- Richard called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm

Approval of Agenda/Minutes of June and September meetings

- Suzanne moved to approve the agenda. Vote passed with no dissent. Cathy moved to approve the September meeting minutes. The minutes were amended and approved unanimously. Cathy moved to approve the minutes from the June meeting, which were also unanimously approved.

Cable Office Report

- Mitsi reviewed complaint data Keith had forwarded to the Committee and discussion followed about the relative proportion between the providers, what impact the storm or other forces of nature should have on contacting the providers, and the new billing system being implemented by Verizon that includes a template indicating the anticipated first month's billing.
- Mitsi indicated she has been working on the newly formed State Communication Commission with other professional and provider representatives.
- Mitsi is also overseeing the process for Comcast's upcoming franchise renewal and improvements for the CCM web. The Committee discussed the need to make their own web information easier to access.
- Mitsi will expedite securing information on power consumption for cable boxes, and placing links on the web so CCAC can reference that in their materials. Cable Office requests for this to providers have not produced significant documentation.
- The Cable Office also filed comments regarding the 911 issues during the derecho storm, objections with the Department of Justice with regard to Spectrum where some of the major providers team up to bundle to compete with other providers, and is working on issues related to the communication coverage of the AG reserve which consists of almost one third of the MoCo land with only 1200 residences, or a ratio of only 9 homes per square mile.

Unfinished Business

- Elections: Committee needs to fill Secretary slot before Suzanne's term ends. Discussion followed of rotating through committee, utilizing Cable Office staff. Jon agreed to take on the responsibility for now.
- Committee membership. Currently there are five slots open, including two required from Rockville and Takoma Park, and two committee members complete their second terms next month. Interviews have been conducted on three candidates and additional vacancy announcements have been requested.
- Discussion of the FCC's digital encryption order. Following an article that Paul had sent to the Committee, discussion of the impact of permitting providers to encrypt even PEG channels. They will need to provide decryption boxes, at no charge for the first year, for affected subscribers. These DTAs are also being upgraded to permit display of more channels, as well as HD, according to Paul's research.
- Cable box power consumption. Mitsi will expedite access to box energy information that may be available so Paul can complete CCAC's draft article on power consumption issues.

- IPG metadata. It was determined that individual PEGs are responsible for their program listings and some may not be as accurate as others at this time.
- Verizon FiOS Metadata IPG listing of all PEG channels. Verizon utilizes a program that covers a large area and does not accommodate even channel designations for some PEGs. Cable Office is working on ways o accomplish better listing information.
- PEG visits. Discussion followed of optimum time to visit additional PEG channel facilities.

New Business

- With upcoming Committee Annual Report preparation it was discussed how to best accomplish the required interaction with the County Council and Executive. Yen provided additional historical information on accomplishments of the CCAC. CCAC determined to invite Council members and staff to attend November meeting to help identify how to best communicate, resolve unfinished business and setting goals for next year.

Public Comments

none

Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm

Submitted by: Suzanne Weiss, CCAC Secretary